

Zola gave notice of appeal on various grounds, and then turned to his novel "Paris," the last proofs of which he had quietly corrected during the interval between his letter, "J'Accuse," and his trial. The work was originally to have appeared in January, but was delayed by Zola's participation in the Dreyfus case. "Writing to Yizetelly on February 6, the evening before he went into court, he said: " 'Paris,'¹ will only be published on March 1. Please therefore warn Mr. Chatto at once and tell him that this date is final. . . . I am not of your opinion.¹ I think that the book will be more successful if we allow the public emotion to calm down a little. Besides, we shall not be ready till March 1."

"Paris," which had been appearing serially in "Le Journal," was issued, then, on that date.² In France the sales were small, for many who had long read Zola with approval now turned from the alleged insulter of the army, the defender of Jewish traitors. But the demand from abroad, whence addresses of sympathy had been raining upon the novelist for six weeks past, was a large one, and thus he did not immediately suffer any great pecuniary loss from his championship of an obnoxious cause. Unfortunately the lessons which the work inculcated scarcely reached those for whom they were primarily intended, that is the Parisians themselves, all "good patriots" now having

agreed to shun Zola and his works.

A period of less disorder but of much controversy, marked by some more revelations, followed his trial. Then on

¹ At the request of the English, publishers Yizetelly had written suggesting that the "book ought to be published as soon as possible, that is, "while the author's case was attracting so much attention.

² "Paris," Fasquelle, 1898, 18mo, 608 pages. Some copies on Dutch and other special papers ; a few presentation ones in 2 vols., 8yo. Eighty-eighth thousand in 1899 ; ninety-fourth thousand in 1903.